Political Subdivisions Interim Committee 2017 Study Items

Issue	Sponsor	Background	Tentative Interim Meeting Date
Local government enforcement mechanisms	Thatcher	Study several components related to local government penalties and enforcement, including: How do state laws and local ordinances compare and interact with each other, i.e., how are penalties for violations established and enforced? What revenue is generated when a municipality enforces a local law verses a state law? How are attorneys provided for people who can't afford them and how to local governments pay for that? How do local governments enforce the collection of fines related to penalties charged?	May
Lien powers granted to local governing bodies	Webb	Study the ability of various local governing bodies to place liens on private property.	May
Encroachment issues regarding municipalities and local/special service districts	Webb	This draft legislation was the result of the committee's review of "A Performance Audit of Culinary Water Improvement Districts." The committee opened the bill file; however, consensus could not be reached before/during the General Session and so the bill was never numbered.	May
Removal of local elected officials	Chavez-Hauck	HB 364 attempted to establish a process for removing a local elected official from office due to mental incapacity.	June
Animal shelters: a) Information disclosure	a) King	HB 421 attempted to address the issue of disclosure by requiring an animal shelter to publish certain information about the animals in custody and maintain that information for a certain time period. SB 56 attempted to address the methods by which	June
b) Euthanasia methods	b) Knudson	an animal shelter may euthanize an animal and require an animal shelter to adopt a euthanasia policy and training program.	
Failure of septic systems and water quality	Van Tassell	There are areas where old septic systems are failing and contaminating ground water. SB 205 would have allowed local governments to create a special assessment area around septic systems to finance the repair/replacement of failed septic systems.	June

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Municipal sewer treatment plants	Millner	Study funding options for state assistance when federal government changes regulations for sewer treatment plants.	August
Political Subdivisions Ethics Commission Review	Bramble	Now that the Commission has completed its first hearing, are any changes warranted regarding the investigation, hearing, or compensation processes?	November
Disposing of property for less than fair market value	Sagers, Handy	HB 436 would have authorized a county to dispose of property for less than fair market value under certain circumstances. Also, Rep. Handy's HB 290 (listed above) would have authorized a local government to sell/lease property to a Community Reinvestment Agency for less than fair market value.	August
Free expression regulation by local government	Thurston	HB 298 would have required a political subdivision to impose any restriction on expressive activity by ordinance.	August
Tax increment financing	Fillmore, Stephenson	Both bills attempted to address what is considered tax increment and sought to exclude, in different ways, tax increment generated by school districts.	September
Community Reinvestment Agency Act - technical changes	Handy	HB 290 was a cleanup bill that would have made technical changes to the Community Reinvestment Agency Act.	September